ILLINOIS RESOURCE NETWORK

Oak Street
UNCLASSIFIED

Network Notes

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What is the Illinois Resource Network?

Samuel Johnson wrote: "Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it." As our society daily becomes more complex, it is increasingly difficult to hold all of the answers. Changing technology and rigid competition are two critical problems encountered by today's businesses.

As Samuel Johnson wrote, we can no longer know all subjects ourselves, but must rely on others. For this purpose the Illinois Resource Network (IRN) was created, to provide a means to find information. IRN assists business, industry, education and government in locating and determining top faculty research experts. The Illinois Resource Network (IRN) is a consortium of five state universities and one federal research laboratory in Illinois, dedicated to solving this problem by promoting information exchange and interaction between academia and industry.

Changing technology and rigid competition are two critical problems encountered by today's businesses.

Each of the six member institutions maintains a database of their own faculty/scientist resumes, including professionals from virtually every imaginable discipline—technology, science, medicine, humanities, the arts, agriculture and more. Professional resumes are housed at their own institution in order to more efficiently provide you with the most current information available.

Academic and federal research is proceeding at a rapid pace, and it can be difficult to keep informed of this progress. IRN is an invaluable tool for keeping up with the most current research by providing the names of foremost authorities in their fields as potential consultants. Each professional's resume contains her/his name, address and phone number, professional identification, research objectives, education, work experience, awards, and bibliography of publications.

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IRN has been used for many different purposes, for example, to locate consultants, guest speakers, performers and expert witnesses. Recently IRN has conducted a variety of searches. Examples include a consultant to prepare a business plan for an entrepreneur seeking venture capital, an engineer with expertise in linear integrated circuit design, a marketing specialist for a day care center, and a construction management expert with hands-on experience.

If you think we might be able to help you, give us a try. It's easy to use IRN. All it takes is a telephone call to 1-800- 843-6993 (toll-free in Illinois) or 217-333-8770.

Tell us the type of information you are seeking. Try to describe your needs as specifically as possible. Once the search has been categorized, the search will be directed to individuals who most closely match your needs. The results are usually mailed to you the next day. It's up to you, the client, to contact the individuals listed in the profiles and to make any further arrangements.

The Illinois Resource Network was created to facilitate information exchange between academic and research organizations and the citizens of Illinois. IRN welcomes requests from out-of- state businesses and government organizations. You or your organization can gain access to this timely information by calling IRN's toll-free number today, 1-800-843-6993 or 217-333-8770.

Here are just a few consultant searches IRN has conducted recently.

- Adhesives
- Health Facilities Design
- Non-toxic Biodegradable Pesticides
- Petrochemicals
- Quality Assurance—Contact Lenses
- Research in Artificial Blood

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Illinois Resource Network
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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IRN Member in Focus

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Since its founding in 1867, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has earned a reputation as an institution of international stature. Its distinguished faculty, outstanding resources, breadth of academic programs and research disciplines, and large and diverse student body constitute an educational community ideally suited for scholarship and research.

Known internationally for its achievements in research and graduate study, the University enrolls some 9,000 graduate and professional students in more than 100 disciplines, and attracts more than $184 million a year in private, state, and federal grants and contract appropriations.

Academic resources on the campus are among the finest in the world. The University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign is the third largest academic collection in the nation. The library's computerized cataloging system was the first in the world to serve as the primary access to a large academic library.

Among the University's most significant resources is its talented and highly respected faculty. More than eighty faculty members belong to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, or the National Academy of Engineering. Nine scientists have received the National Medal of Science and forty-two have received the Presidential Young Investigators Award while on the faculty.

The campus receives a number of requests annually to identify various expertise of the 2,500 tenured and tenure-track faculty at the University. As interdisciplinary study expands, campus faculty and administrators increasingly rely on the campus IRN resource to identify faculty. IRN has provided the means for managing basic information on research and scholarship interests of the faculty and responding to these various requests.

IRN will continue to be an important resource to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

IRN Participating Members

Northern Illinois University
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Argonne National Laboratory